

CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A system to transfer fluid via at least one pipeline from one structure to another structure, comprising a first structure having an offloading arm which is movable in two planes perpendicular to each other and in which a part of the offloading arm remote from the first structure is engagable with a second structure, so to allow linear and rotational movements between the structures, and wherein at least a part of the pipeline along the offloading arm, remote from the first structure is attached to the offloading arm by means of at least one support moveable lengthwise relative to the offloading arm, and this part of the pipeline includes at least a first pipeline section configured to compensate for movements between the two structures in the longitudinal direction of the offloading arm, the first pipeline section being configured as a spiral with the axis of the spiral extending generally parallel with the longitudinal direction of the offloading arm, and the spiral pipeline being capable of sustaining a spiral shape under the combined weight of the pipeline and fluid within the pipeline.
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (currently amended) A system according ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the part of the pipeline also includes at least a second rigid pipeline section connected to supports moveable lengthwise relative to the offloading arm.
6. (previously presented) A system according to claim 5, wherein at least one of the supports is a wheel mounted trolley arranged for movement lengthwise relative to the offloading arm.
7. (previously presented) A system according to claim 6, wherein the part of the pipeline remote from the first structure and engagable with the second structure is itself connected to or part of another support moveable lengthwise relative to the offloading arm.

8. (previously presented) A system according to claim 7, wherein the pipeline is connected to the respective structures by joints capable of accommodating angular and rotational movement between the pipeline and the respective structure.
9. (previously presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein the pipeline is connected to one of the respective structures by a hinge joint and to the other of the respective structures by hinge joints.
10. (previously presented) A system according to claim 9, wherein the pipeline has at least one joint arranged to compensate for thermal expansion and contraction relative to the offloading arm and/or either or both of the structures, whereby to allow optimum alignment of adjacent lengths of pipeline.
11. (previously presented) A system according to claim 10, wherein there are a plurality of pipelines extending between the structures.
12. (previously presented) A system according to claim 11, wherein a joint between the offloading arm and the second structures is formed as a pin downwardly dependant from the offloading arm, and rotatable about a vertical axis in a receptacle on the second structures.
13. (previously presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein tension is applied between the second structure and the part of the offloading arm engagable with that second structure, so to resist separation of the loading arm and the structure.
14. (cancelled)